



County Administrative Office Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Josh Candelaria
Governmental & Legislative
Affairs Director

June 23, 2016

The Honorable Das Williams
Chair, Assembly Natural Resource Committee
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 1387 (de León) – As amended April 7, 2016 – OPPOSE

Dear Assemblyman Williams:

The County of San Bernardino respectfully opposes SB 1387, a bill which would add three state appointees to the South Coast Air Quality Management District Governing Board and increase the authority of the California Air Resources Board (CARB) over certain local air board decisions.

The South Coast AQMD Board comprises 10 locally elected officials – supervisors from Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, and city council members and mayors – who are selected in a public and transparent process, in addition to three state appointees, selected by the Governor, the Senate Committee on Rules and the Speaker of the Assembly. There are no restrictions on the Senate and Assembly appointees, other than they must be residents of the district and not elected officials. Adding additional state appointees bypasses the local electorate, and dilutes the accountability of the Board to the constituents it represents.

SB 1387 further erodes local control by giving CARB additional authority over any air district's market-based incentive program to reduce pollution from major sources. It would allow CARB to unilaterally modify any rule or impose its own rule, which would be immediately binding on a district. The members who are elected by their colleagues to serve on the South Coast AQMD Board do so reflecting their commitment to cleaning the air. They must digest complex technical issues to inform often difficult decisions, as they seek to protect both public health and the viability of local businesses that provide jobs to their constituents, as required by current state law.

For these reasons, the County of San Bernardino is opposed to SB 1387 and respectfully requests a "no vote" when the bill comes before your committee. If you have any questions, please contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs at (909) 387-4821 or jcandelaria@sbcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Ramos".

JAMES RAMOS
Board of Supervisors Chairman
County of San Bernardino

c: Members and Consultants, Assembly Natural Resource Committee
Honorable Kevin de León
San Bernardino County Legislative Delegation

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